

JEFFERSON PROVING GROUND RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

DATE:

March 12, 1997

PLACE:

Salvation Army Headquarters

331 East Main Street Madison, IN 47250

TIME:

7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Mr. Paul Cloud, Co-Chairperson Mr. Richard Hill, Co-Chairperson

Audience Members

Sharon Shields, Court Reporter

S.A.S. Reporting Service

SHARON SHIELDS, REPORTER

3650 N. Old SR 62 MADISON, INDIANA 47250 (812) 265-2994 A public hearing of The Jefferson Proving

Ground Restoration Advisory Board meeting was held in The

Salvation Army Headquarters, 331 East Main Street,

Madison, IN at 7:00 P.M. on March, 12, 1997.

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OPENING STATEMENTS BY MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Good evening. I would like to welcome everyone here to the March meeting of the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board meeting. For those who may not know me my name is Paul Cloud. I'm employed by the U.S. Army. I used to work at the Proving Ground. Until it closed I was the head of the Environmental Office and I now work out of the Headquarter's Office back in Aberdeen. My sole function is the environmental restoration of the Proving Ground. My title is BRAC Environmental Coordinator commonly referred to as BEC. I'm also the Army's co-chair for the Restoration Advisory Board. Richard Hill is the community's co-chair. I would like to welcome everyone here tonight. And if you have not signed in on the attendance sheet I would strongly encourage you to do so, provide us your address so that we can keep you informed on our mailing list of future meetings and any mailings that might come out and to keep you current with the

environmental restoration of the Proving Ground. And if you have any other questions I can provide you with other points of contact depending on what your specific interest might be. That's all I have for introductory remarks. I'll let Richard make his and then we can get on with the agenda. Thank you.

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OPENING REMARKS BY RICHARD HILL:

Good evening. It looks like we have a pretty good crowd tonight. That's good. Glad to see everybody. Hope people are drying out pretty well. I don't have too much to say to get started here. A couple of things. I do want to mention this. Probably someone will bring up here later that this week there's some interviewing going on by representatives of the Army Environmental Center and they are interested in speaking one on one or two on two or a few people at a time or whatever with people out in the community to find out you know what the level of awareness, concern and interests are with the environmental activities and future use of the site. And they are going to be out at the Proving Ground this week and have been. If you're interested in talking to them you can call out at Ken Knouf's office. It's 273-2551. If you didn't get that you can see me after the meeting to do that. I was out there and had a

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really nice talk with them this week. Also I just got, haven't read it yet, so I put some up on the table. And they weren't out when almost everybody came in. There is an EPA Environmental Effects sheet that has to do with the finalizing of regulations for military conditions. This may have some bearing on what's going on here. Like I said I just now got it. So if you're interested in that you may want to pick one of those up too. Gosh what else? I guess that's about it for me. We can go ahead and get started with our agenda for tonight. And we're going to be looking at funding of suitability to transfer and lease up dates. Paul you want to start that off? Thank you.

REMARKS BY MR. PAUL CLOUD:

I have to apologize for not having additional copies of the agenda available tonight. I was in a meeting with State and EPA representatives, John Manley from Indiana Department of Environmental Management. John would you like to stand up so everybody knows who you are? And Karen Mason-Smith from the Superfund section of Region 5 EPA. The three (3) or us comprise what's called the BRAC clean up team. It is our task to evaluate the contamination from an environmental prospective at the Proving Ground and based on the re-use

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come up with an acceptable level of cleanliness for those areas. We were at a meeting this morning discussing a number of those items. It was about eleven thirty (11:30) and Ken Knouf, the site manager for the Army, handed me a fax from the Pentagon. It said we would like an up date on these unexploded ordinance status at the Proving Ground for the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense by noon. So I had twenty-five (25) minutes to create a letter and get it faxed off. I didn't quite make it but it has been done. It got in the way of my preparations for this meeting tonight so I have to apologize for that. Normally I do have some agendas and I didn't make copies or bring some of the copies of slides that I was going to show. But I will be able to talk about those. The first item I would like to talk about and I will use this transparency for multiple purposes. The first thing I would like to talk about is the finding of suitability to transfer. That is a process that has been developed for determining the environmental suitability of a parcel of land at a BRAC facility, a facility at a military base that's been closed for transfer. It's a document that is drafted by the military service whether it's the Army, the Navy, the Air Force. And it is then put out for public review. Typically it's a thirty (30) day review.

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We look at the comments we get back from not only the regulators but the general public, environmental activists, any concerned or involved citizens. To the best that we can we try to incorporate all of those comments and then create a revised document that we then put out for identification of what we classify as "unresolved issues". Anything that falls into that category is made part of the document so if there is a concern that doesn't get addressed or made part of the formal FOST itself, it is still a part of that document that ultimately gets signed. It gets made a part of the public record. Then when those - if any unresolved issues are identified and made part of the document then it works its way up the - in this case the Army's change of command to whoever has the signatory authority for that document. And it depends on a number of facts. that person is comfortable from his review of that document, signs it, then it will then go to the Army's real estate agent which in this case is Louisville District of the Corps of Engineers. They will then draft the deed transfer if it's a transfer document or a lease document. If it's a lease they will then get the necessary reviews and signatures on the lease or the deed transfer. And then the actual property will be leased or transferred. The most current document that just went

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out last week to all the RAB members and a number of other individuals, and I have provided copies here if anyone would like to review it and to provide comments to me on this. It's approximately a forty (40) acre parcel in this general area right here (indicating). basically bounded on north by the Woodfill Road and on the west by Papermill Road. It has six (6) buildings in it, half of those buildings have potential historical significance. And anything that would be proposed to be done to those buildings would have to be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation office. Mr. Ford, who is the leaser and furtherance of conveyance has requested the Army transfer that property to him as he has a potential buyer. And we are in the process of having that document reviewed. We've asked for comments by the 4th of April. I have a fax number. I have a toll free I have a mailing address. If anyone who has any number. comments about that document after they've reviewed it, feel free to provide those either to Ken out at the site or send them to me or call me at my toll free number or The parcel itself is bounded on the on my fax number. north by Woodfill Road and on the east by Papermill Road. It's the Army's understanding that Mr. Ford has been in negotiations with the Indiana Department of

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Transportation on this particular parcel. I believe they

are interested in establishing a highway maintenance facility there. Don't know any more specifics about their negotiations. That's basically going to be an issue between Mr. Ford and the Indiana Department of Transportation. If the document is signed and the transfer goes forward that will be the transaction between the Army and Mr. Ford. That property would then belong to him. He would be responsible for it. He would have to pay the Army if it is over and above what he has already given us as a down payment on the full thirtyfour hundred (3400) acres. And then he would be free to sell that property or lease it based on any deed restrictions that the Army may feel necessary to put into that particular transfer. Are there any questions about this particular item on the agenda? I was going to have someone here from the Corps of Engineers real estate division who would explain to you what happens after a FOST or a FOSIL is signed so that you could get an appreciation of the administrative process and why things don't happen over night once one (1) particular document is signed so that people would hopefully understand the Unfortunately called yesterday and have not process. been able to make it tonight. We will schedule him for the next meeting of the RAB which is in May. hopefully they will be able to provide that information

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at that time. If you have any specific questions that you feel you would like to know the answers to before then get a hold of me or call Ken at the Proving Ground and I can get back to you and provide that information. Or I can put you in touch with the Corps of Engineers real estate division and they can provide that information. The next topic on the agenda is an up date on the status of the unexploded ordinance removal operations in the cantonment area. Back in 1995 before the Proving Ground closed, the Army commissioned the Corps of Engineers in Huntsville, who is the center of expertise for exploded ordinance, to perform what is known as an archive record search. They went through all the records of the Proving Ground from the time that it existed and was created back in 1941, interviewed a number of employees past and current employees, looked at over head photographs and looked at all the firing records wherever they were kept throughout the country if they were available. And they looked at a number of places from Washington D.C. out to Utah and Aberdeen. Spent several months. Did a fairly good research and reporting on the types of ordinance fired at the Proving Ground and where it might be. It's a three (3) volume There is a copy in the library and there's also a copy at Hanover College. We also have a copy out at the

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Proving Ground if you would like to see it. The archive record search identified these areas here (indicating) and also this pink area, this area, this hundred (100) acres, this large area here and these two (2) pie slices right up here (indicating) as areas of what are known as potentially contaminated with unexploded ordinances. That was based on records, research, interviews with past and current employees at the time and a cursory looking and walking over the area as much as they could in a finite given amount of time. They were fairly conservative. Last summer the Huntsville Corps of Engineers with funding that was provided by the Army did a UXO removal action on this hundred (100) acre parcel right here (indicating). That has been completed down to a depth of four (4) feet below the surface. The Army's commitment was that in the cantonment area they would do a UXO removal effort to that depth. That supports agricultural and some recreational reuse. It does not provide the necessary coverage if you need to dig footings or basements or something of that nature. average cost per acre that we are experiencing right now and it depends on the specific parcel. If it's flat, if it's open, if it has vegetation on it such as trees, bushes or is it hilly or rugged, it averages six thousand dollars (\$6000) an acre. The process basically is that

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they will go out with magnetometers, basically metal detectors, that are calibrated to determine or find a certain size of ordinance based on the archive record search that they feel will be in a specific area. anytime they find a hit basically, they get a beep on their machine, they flag it and they will come back and they will hand excavate it, dig a hole with their hands and they will shovel it. And they will see what it is. It could be Farmer Jones' plow. It could be bailing wire. It could be a 105 high explosive shell. It could be a mortar. Could be a hand grenade or a mine. could be nails. In this hundred (100) acre section (indicating) we recovered approximately eight (8) tons of scrap metal. Farmer Jones' plow, bailing wire, so on and so forth. We also found one (1) round that was detonated. After it has been completed the Corps of Engineers, our real estate division in Louisville has provided Mr. Ford with a revision to his lease. Any any of these areas that have a potential for UXO, although they are in the property that he is leasing and will ultimately own, he does not have access to at this time because they have a potential for unexploded ordinance. The revision to his lease which he just recently received allows him access now to this parcel

minus this little red square (indicating). This little

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red square has environmental contamination and he still does not have access to that little red square. The rest of that hundred (100) acre parcel if he wanted to go in and plow that up and plant soybeans he can now go do The next area that we went into and was immediately after this was this small - this small section of this (indicating). We found some mortars on the surface and as a result of that we had the same contractor go in and do a surface clearance only. will go back in that area and do a four (4) foot clearance later. In that area we found four hundred and seventy-five (475) rounds of mortars. They were 6881 mm. mortars. All but about two (2) or three (3) were inert. They were not explosive. They had wax fillers on them. But two (2) or three (3) did have we believe high explosives. That area is not done. Mr. Ford does not have access to that area. No one has access to that area at this present time. The next area we did these two (2) little pie slices up here. They found a number of rounds there. They were detonated. During that process they also found that along Woodfill Road up here, which was not part of their contract, there appeared to be a number of rounds underneath the road along about a two thousand (2,000) foot stretch of that road. Next Monday when I

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get back to Headquarters I will authorize the Huntsville

Corps of Engineers to go rip up that section of road, do the UXO clearance down to four (4) foot below and then replace the road and it will finish that section. Mr. Ford will have another revision to his lease and he will have access to that. Currently the Huntsville Corps of Engineers has funding to provide the UXO removal operation for this area (indicating) and this area (indicating) up here, approximately seven hundred (700) eight hundred (800) acres. The schedule that the court has provided us estimates that once they start work out in the field it will be somewhere between four hundred (400) and four hundred and fifty (450) days to go do That's a rough ball park estimate. It may be faster. It may be a little slower. It's going to depend upon weather and a number of other things. It's a fairly large area. And we will see how it gets on. additional funding is made available the next area, and we have coordinated this with Mr. Ford based on his reuse desires, is this key parcel over here (indicating) that is south and to the west of Krueger Lake area. approximately eight hundred (800) acres. The last section is this four hundred (400) acre section that at one (1) time the county had interest in as part of a park which they have relinquished that interest and we will do

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that last. That will probably be the most expensive area

in the cantonment parcel for us to do UXO clearance on. And the reason why it is the most heavily forested and there are also wetland areas in there. So it will be very expensive to do that. The Army has made the commitment that they will in fact do a clearance operation in the cantonment area to the four (4) foot criteria. Are there any questions regarding the UXO operations in the cantonment area?

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

I have a question Paul.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Karen?

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

The northeast corner by the issue

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

What about it?

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Are they completed?

site?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

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The two (2) pie slices are done. What is not done is the two thousand (2,000) feet of road that they found what they believe is ordinance underneath the road itself. That was not part of their contract. They are waiting for me to authorize them to go do that and I will do that Monday. This total acreage here (indicating) that the Corps of Engineers identified as having potential UXO in the cantonment area total approximately two thousand two hundred and thirty-four (2,234) acres. The Army currently estimates it will cost in the order of eighteen million (\$18,000,000) dollars to do the UXO removal operation in that area based on the six thousand dollars (\$6,000) per acre figure of the money that we have requested this year, next year and if necessary the year after that. There are certain restraints on the amount of money we can get at any particular year because as I'm sure everyone here is aware that JPG is not the only facility that was closed by the Department of Defense. And we all compete for the same money to do the same things, either UXO removal or environmental clean up. Some of you may know that there are a number of tenants out in the - at the Proving The most recent - one of the most recent tenants Ground. is a gentleman that has a machine shop over in Building

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The Army agreed to allow him to make use of that 322. building but they are very specific restrictions on his usage. The bottom line being that there may be times when he does not have access to his building when the UXO operations are occurring in the air field area. He is not in the potential area but he is fairly close to it. There may be times when he is not allowed to run certain types of electrical or electronic machinery because it may affect the fuses in some of the explosives that the people will be using to treat anything that they find. He has agreed to those. He has been briefed on the presence of the potential UXO in that area. And we don't anticipate any problems. But we will keep track of him when they start working. He will be briefed again when the contractor comes out there. Are there any other questions about the unexploded ordinance in the cantonment area?

MS. LAURA HODGES:

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This goes a long way back. I was going to ask you about cost but you answered that next so you answered mine.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Okay.

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MS. LAURA HODGES:

But as long as you're asking though who is this person who's the new tenant in Building 322?.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Would know. Ken will probably be here in about half an hour. I just - I just don't remember Laura. I think it's a local businessman. He has about eight (8) or ten (10) employees. And one of the reasons he wanted that particular building is that it had a hoist crane type of set up inside the building.

MS. LAURA HODGES:

Is that the one that's near Building

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

No. That's J&R.

MS. LAURA HODGES:

Okay.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

They've been in there for quite a

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while. This one is over by the air field.

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MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

Paul? Do you want to just give them an up date on where the residual soil sampling and the residue issue is at?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

There is an outstanding issue Sure. right now that the Army, Indiana Department of Environmental Management and the EPA are discussing. That issue is what is commonly referred to as residual soil sampling. What that really means is when they find a piece of ordinance out in the ground for safety reasons they don't move it you know like way up north and then blow it up. They usually almost in every case blow it right at our place. The concern and the issue that we are discussing is okay, blowing this thing up now is there anything left in the soil? Are there metals? Are there explosive residues? And if so how much? Do they still - those residues pose a potential problem. Army, EPA and the State are discussing that issue. both have made proposals and in the next few weeks to months we will resolve the issue as to how much sampling and to what type of quality control needs to be done.

what process needs to be incorporated and performed at these sites. There are different perceptions from the various agencies as to the need for what level needs to be done based on type of ordinance that are being found. We did - the Army did provide some information on some limited sampling on some - some of the mortar rounds that were detonated in this eight (8) acre surface clearance last year. They indicated essentially nothing as far as explosives and metals. However it has raised a number of additional questions for the regulators that the Army will be resolving with them as we continue to negotiate how we are going to actually sample and verify that there's nothing left out there after these pieces of ordinance have been detonated.

MR. FRANK INSKEEP:

What about the DU?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Beg your pardon?

MR. FRANK INSKEEP:

What about the DU you found?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

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Okay. The DU, depleted uranium, is is if you are not familiar with that term is not in this area at all. It is considerably north. At one (1) time the DU was in fact - was not manufactured or machined, but it was handled in the facilities south of the firing Those facilities south of the firing line were in fact cleaned, they were inspected, surveyed, not only by the Army but by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. license that the Army still has was modified to delete anything south of the firing line. The only area that currently still exists is the two thousand (2,000) acre impact range north of the firing line where the Army estimates there are approximately seventy-five thousand (75,000) kiligrams of depleted uranium still in the soil. The Nuclear Regulatory Agency is currently working on what's called an Environmental Impact Statement to assess the Army's request for what is called a restricted reuse termination of that permit. Basically the Army requested that the license be terminated. That the Army would provide security around that area so it would present access into that area and the Army felt that because the area is right in the center of the impact range and that area is also saturated with unexploded ordinance, that it would be from a safety prospective too dangerous to try

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and go in there and pick up the depleted uranium.

Currently the NRC is working on their EIS. Their current schedule shows that the final for that document will be out in December of 1998. I talked with the gentleman from the NRC last week and informed him that I would ask him to be present at the next meeting in May to provide an updated status on where they stood on their EIS and what they were planning on doing. So maybe that will - he will be able to provide me with additional information in that time span. Any other questions?

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Did you say an archival search similar to the one being done for the area north of the firing line?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

when the archive search was done, it was done for the whole fifty-five thousand (55,000) acres.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Okay.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

There are three (3) volumes. Volume two (2) is for the cantonment area. Volume one (1) is from the firing line north to K Road. Volume three (3) is K Road north. So it covers the whole fifty-five thousand (55,000) acres. Yes sir?

MR. DAVE KOENIG:

Would it be possible to provide the records to the Jennings County and Ripley County libraries?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Sure. That is very easy. I will take care of that. Any other questions? One (1) thing you should note. There has been some questions about the presence of UXO north of the firing line. As I'm sure a lot of people here know there is approximate fifteen hundred (1500) foot buffer or boundary around the perimeter of the Proving Ground still inside the fence line that was "not intentionally fired into". That does not mean that there was not UXO in there. It just means that the Army when they were testing the ordinance didn't intentionally fire there. The archive record search acknowledges that. They also acknowledge that there is

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UXO there and that their recommendation is before any property might be transferred north of the firing line, and I'm not saying that any would be, but I'm saying that if any were to be at a future date it would have to have the UXO removal operation done. Did you have another question Richard?

MR. RICHARD HILL:

I was just going to make a comment that you mentioned that if - if it was being considered to transfer any of the property that it would have to be cleaned up. It would have to be you know cleared of UXO. That would be a lot more expensive to do in that area than what we're talking about in the cantonment area.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

In fact that's a specific issue that is addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement that the Army wrote for the disposal and reuse of the properties and was finalized back in December of 1995.

Look at the copy of that document in the library or in the - and at the record of Hanover College. You will see a table in there that gives you estimates on what it would cost for UXO removal operations north of the firing line. And the things that affect that are one (1) the

depth that you would go to. And it's broken out into surface clearance, one (1) foot, four (4) foot and ten (10) foot below the surface. It's then broken down further into things about heavy UXO, light or medium UXO contamination. And then it also has a further break out as to the type of vegetation. If it's heavily vegetated with a lot of trees or it's open area and if the topography or the ground is level and flat or if it's very hilly and steep. The numbers range anywhere from three (\$3,000) to five thousand dollars (\$5,000) an acre all the way up to eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) an The one (1) study that has been done and it was done back in 1992 that gave an estimate on what it would cost to clean the entire Proving Ground, all fifty-five thousand (55,000) acres for unrestricted reuse estimates fifteen billion (\$15,000,000,000) dollars. That's in 1992 dollars with no cost inflation factor included. would take approximately twenty-five (25) years. an estimate only. Yes sir?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Paul is there any estimates as to how deep the unexploded ordinance could be?

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MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes sir. It can be anywhere from the surface down to twenty (20) or thirty (30) feet. There are former employees who will tell you that they have taken backhoes and chased UXO down to the full extent and reach of their backhoe and it's still down there and they haven't been able to get at it. If the Army were to do any deep UXO removal operations anywhere on the Proving Ground basic process would be two (2) to four (4) foot increments. And you would basically clear off that four (4) foot area, clear it and then you would have to scrape up that area and then survey the next one. Essentially what you would ultimately end up with an area that's gone down like that, is a strip mine. It can be done but I don't recommend it. Steve?

MR. STEVE LYONS:

Paul just for clarification you're talking about the safety fence?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes sir.

MR. STEVE LYONS:

And I know we discussed that in

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August of 19 whenever. When Colonel Adams was down here matter of fact. We had the meetings at JPG. At that point in time I think it was — it was pretty clear that we were looking at those for the other counties as well as our own here in Jefferson. But I think it was pretty clear at that point in time the Army had no intent to fund clean up north of the firing line.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

That is still current.

MR. STEVE LYONS:

And - and I thought maybe that - to clarify that point for the group here.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

The Army has not identified or requested any funding for clearance of UXO for depleted uranium north of the firing line. That is an accurate statement. That property has not been what we call accessed. It is not available for transfer. The Fish and Wildlife Service request for that property is still outstanding. They have not retracted their offer. They sent a letter to the Army in September of 1995 that indicates for a number of reasons they will not pursue

taking the property. And there is no doubt in my mind personally that the Army will retain ownership of the property north of the firing line. But they have never retracted their official request. Go ahead.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Going along with that same statement will it be - will it be possible that the Army will use and maintain that approximately fifty thousand (50,000) acres as they have over the past fifty (50) years? By that I mean they have timber cutting on that property. They had game management so that the deer herd was more or less kept under control. The counties did receive some advantage from the timber sales that the Army had on that property. Now if they - will they continue that?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

answer is yes. The longer answer is yes but it may not be the same in all respects. As you well know the Secretary of the Army made a visit to Jefferson Proving Ground back in October of last year. During that visit he was approached by the Fish and Wildlife Service on a possibility of the Army and the Fish and Wildlife Service entering into a more formal agreement, not a transfer of the property, but a more

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formal agreement where they would provide and enhance to an elevated increased level of natural resource protection north of the firing line. The Secretary thought that was a good idea. He directed the personnel at our Headquarters to draft an agreement for the Army and the Fish and Wildlife Service to sign and enter into. That has - the agreement has been written. We have submitted it to the Fish and Wildlife Service. We have gone about as far as the Army can go as far as proposing a level of funding to supply to the Fish and Wildlife Service for the next three (3) years so that they can get a similar level of funding into their budget. It takes two (2) to three (3) years to get a new item into a federal agency budget cycle. Currently Fish and Wildlife Service has made a counter proposal. That proposal is back up at the Pentagon being reviewed. The only thing I know about it in any detail is that it's unclear what or if the Fish and Wildlife Service is willing to commit for a long term involvement north of the firing line. It is not clear yet what they want to do after two (2) to three (3) years. And there are some additional concerns. I think that is the major one.

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MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

You might want to add Paul in the

sense of other activities for maintenance like security and the fence, that's going to be required as part of closure of the regulated unit, the outcome of the munitions rule and the range rule application also.

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MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Also Carol Witt-Smith is from the hazardous waste section of Region 5 and EPA and she is correct. North of the firing line just south of where the Air National Guard continues to test there is an area of approximately twelve (12) acres where the Army detonated surplus munitions, bombs, ordinance, whatever you want to call it. That is a formal process. requires a permit from the EPA or the State, depending on who has the authority. We did that for a number of years. We are not doing it now. There is an on going dialogue between the Army and the State and the EPA as to how we will close that area out. Some of the complicating factors are that's a ten (10) or twelve (12) acre parcel. If the Army went in there and cleaned up everything one (1) of the questions would be how would you ever prove that you cleaned it up because the tens of thousands of acres that immediately surround it have identically the same stuff. If you put a landfill cap on it instead you can clean it up. You might have a small

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problem if somebody did an oops from the Air National Guard but they are pretty professional. I don't think that would happen but it might and they might put a hole in our tap. And we might have a problem there. Plus you get back to the same problem. How do you know the cap is effective even if it doesn't have any holes in it because again the surrounding tens of thousands of acres have identically the same things basically. There are a number of issues that need to be resolved on this. There is an endangered species down at the bottom of the hill. the Indiana bat. So the Fish and Wildlife Service have a regulatory legal authority there. EPA and the State have an interest there. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, although not in that specific area, the DU area as the gentleman so identified is also north of the firing line. What the Army will try to do this year is start a series of meetings with all of these individuals, the EPA, the State, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the Department of Natural Resources and the State of Indiana Fish and Wildlife Service so that we can begin the process on how we're going to close out that area and how we're going to monitor north of the firing line for the long term for the metals, the explosives and the depleted uranium. it will not be a quick one (1) meeting solution where we sit down for five (5) minutes to resolve all the

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It will take some time. As Carol mentioned questions. there is a munitions rule and I think Richard mentioned it earlier. The EPA was tasked with coming up with a proposal on when ordinance is a waste. They have done that. It came out in February. It will be effective in August. But as part of that the Department of Defense in negotiations with the EPA and coordination with them will be also coming out with what's called a range rule that will address munitions on closed, closing or transfer of ranges something that specifically applies to Jefferson Proving Ground. So that rule has not even come up for review yet. It will be coordinated with not only the EPA and the State and the environmental activists and private citizens, but it will take some time to resolve all these comments and to make a final rule. When those rules are both final and the court challenges to them have been resolved and the Army and EPA and the State and NRC and the other agencies involved have been able to work through all of their comments and concerns and questions for what we will do north of the firing line, then that will be also part of the public record because it is a form of process that will require that type of involvement and notification. Yes ma'am?

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MS. MARY CLASHMAN:

If the Fish and Wildlife Service does not ever sign their agreement with the Army to take over that area, then will the Army be left with it indefinitely?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Even if that agreement is signed by the Fish and Wildlife, the Army will still own the land. They are respon - they will be responsible and liable for anything that is on the land with the possible exception of what the Air National Guard does in their thousand (1,000) acre parcel.

MS. MARY CLASHMAN:

For how long?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Forever.

MS. MARY CLASHMAN:

And then can they do anything else with it if the Fish and Wildlife Service sends their agreement back and says thanks but no thanks? Are there any alternatives that they can do with it?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

When you say they I assume you mean the Army?

The Army.

MS. MARY CLASHMAN:

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

There is a possibility we may enter into a similar agreement with the Department of Natural Resources State of Indiana. There is a possibility that the Army may enter into a similar agreement with the U.S. Forest Service. There are other options that the Army does have along the same line. It may not be with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

MS. MARY CLASHMAN:

But because of the horrendous cost of clean up there wouldn't be any other except some sort of a natural - leaving it in a natural state that the Army could do right?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Currently that is correct. Yes sir?

MR. FRANK COPELAND:

That ten (10) or twelve (12) acre disposal site, this was for burning old ammunition?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

No sir. That was for detonation.

Blowing up ammunition. It was immediately south of where the Air National Guard currently tests. There was no burning there. It was blown up.

MR. FRANK COPELAND:

For many years?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

For several years yes sir. Yes sir?

MR. DAVE KOENIG:

At one (1) point in time there was a proposal purported by the Army to return some of the property north of the firing line along the buffer zone to the communities of Jennings and Ripley Counties. In response to the reuse plan though that's all gone away? It's not consistent with the reuse plan? For whatever reasons it's all gone away. But in the future if there were a private entity or some entity interested in

properties there and funds were available to go through a screening and remediation as described, would the existence of the Fish and Wildlife offer, because it's not resolved at this point in time, would that disqualify any other types of uses for the property within the fence?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Without knowing any specifics my basic answer is I don't know. I would suspect not. There is always that potential. That would be "an unsolicited offer". Currently the Army does not have any projected funding for the area north of the firing line. If someone, whether it was a community or a private entity, business or whatever came to the Army with a detailed written proposal we would like this area, this is what we would want to do with it, we believe it would require a four (4) foot UXO removal operation, we have the funding in escrow that would cover that, here is our plan for the Department Defense Explosive Safety Board to review and approve, if that were all done that is a possibility. No guarantees. But that is a possibility. I can give you the name of a gentleman who is the base transition coordinator and who works in the Headquarters with me if you would like to continue that conversation.

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That is his specific area of responsibility at JPG.

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MR. DAVE KOENIG:

There's nothing pressing. Just wondered with the federal screening how that would be completed I guess?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Well it has been completed.

MR. DAVE KOENIG:

Even though the question of the Fish and Wildlife interest hasn't been resolved yet?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

well when you say it hasn't been resolved that's true. But actual screening process was completed at JPG. And don't expect any further "avail - formal, official availabilities of the property at JPG" as I know it right now.

MR. BOB HUDSON:

Well Paul in the screening process
though when that - the opportunity afforded itself to the
government agencies, in essence when Fish and Wildlife

put their request in at that point in time it froze that property for the rest of the process.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

with some detailed and specifics that would support it, my recommendation is basically a personal recommendation would be for that particular party to write Fish and Wildlife Service and say we have this potential but right now your request for the property is essentially holding us out. If you formally withdraw your request we may be able to proceed. Note again no guarantees. But if I were someone that were going to do it I think that's what I might do. Yes ma'am?

MS. MARY CLASHMAN:

Would public notification be required if such a thing happened?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

As far as what?

MS. MARY CLASHMAN:

As far as how would I find out?

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

If they withdraw?

MS. MARY CLASHMAN:

How would I find out? If this gentleman's supposition that somebody had decided that they wanted it for something in there at four (4) feet or whatever supposition you want to make, you said okay they can do it and the Fish and Wildlife agreed okay they can do it how would I as a member of the public find out if this was happening?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

would be environmental issues or concerns, whether real or potential, it would be addressed right here. And notification would be via this mechanism of this board. And I would probably make it. And it would be utilized through out mailing lists and Proving Ground and there would be notices in the paper that this is a potential, not an actual done deal but it has been you know something that may occur. You might - the Army may seek public comment on that. Don't know. It has never been done anywhere. Once the federal screening process has been completed and it has not been re-initiated to my

knowledge anywhere, so it would be a first. So that would be a new mechanism or process that would have to be developed. But I believe there would be public notification. That is one (1) of the reasons for the Restoration Advisory Board. Yes sir?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Paul the way I understand it is for all intents and purposes this fifty thousand plus acres will be off limits?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

It's not off limits now. And it has not been off limits even when the Proving Ground was active. As you know there has been hunting going on and there is fishing up in the lake. It is not open "for the general public".

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

That's what I meant.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

But that's - yeah. If you mean the general public yes that is true. That may or may not continue. Right now that is the current status.

Depending on a lot of unknowns and uncertainties that may change. One (1) of the things I would like to show now is a short video. It's geared towards children. It addresses the issue of unexploded ordinance. Ken will have two (2) copies of this video at the Proving Ground. We will be showing it to all the tenants and the people that are living out at the site. And we will also develop a process to make it available to the various schools and other organizations here in the community. I think it's a very good video. I've showed it to the State and the EPA. It takes about six (6) minutes so if you would bear with me for a second we will turn on the TV and let it go.

(SHOWING VIDEO)

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

There are two (2) types of signs that the Army uses at the Proving Ground to identify those areas that have a potential presence of unexploded ordinance. This is one (indicating). And the other one (1) you saw in the video. Basically the only difference is you see the explosion here with the figures. Any area in the cantonment parcel that has this is restricted access. No one (1) is allowed access to that area unless

you are explosive ordinance disposal trained. You have to be escorted out there. You just don't walk out there. Another device we will be utilizing to inform and educate the people that are working out at the Proving Ground and living there is this display (indicating) that shows again some of the various type of ordinance that have been found. Some of these have been found at JPG, some of them have been found at the other testing facilities, Aberdeen and so forth. But it shows you a fairly good representation of the various types of ordinance that was used at the Proving Ground and what they can look like after they've been in the ground for a long time. Are there any questions about the unexploded ordinance at the Proving Ground in the cantonment area or north of the firing line?

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

Paul were we going to ask about how they felt about this material?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yeah. Thank you Carol. One (1) of the things that I would encourage you to do and specific to this video if you have any suggestions on how we might utilize that and provide that to the community please

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contact Ken Knouf. Ken would you stand up please? (Standing) This is our site manager at the Proving Ground and you can contact him there. The number is 273-2551 or 273-2522. And provide him with any suggestions on ways we might possibly utilize the police department D.A.R.E. program and let them use it. Or ask for the schools to sign up and borrow the video. Whatever recommendations. Maybe using the local video cable service and their public access channels periodically to play this. If you have any recommendations or suggestions, not only on the use of this, but any other informational material that might be of benefit for the UXO and Proving Ground, please contact Ken so that we can evaluate your suggestions.

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

May I add a comment to that?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes.

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

We really want you to put your advice in on this especially since right now we're working on a new revised security plan for the site both north and

south of the firing line. Part of that program is doing educational information not only for the people coming on the property and utilizing the site in sub-lease activities or leasing activities or deliveries, but also anyone who potentially if the park would eventually get open for use and other activities, that you, the general public, are going to have access to the site. And if we do not have fences between those activities and the UXO areas, or the regulated units or the investigation areas, this is your opportunity to help match up that program while it's being developed right now. So - and we're both in support of each other to get this program going and I'm trying to work cooperatively you know. If we want EPA or the State or the Army to come and do specific plots, we're there to do it. But we need to know where you want it.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

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Thank you Carol. If there are no further questions on the unexploded ordinance, the next item on the agenda is the revision to the community relations plan. As Richard identified earlier in the meeting, the Army's contractor from SAIC is out here this week conducting a number of interviews. We sent out over two hundred (200) letters requesting people to have an

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interview so that we could find out if there were any issues or concerns or mechanisms that they thought might be available to increase the information and the activities that are going on at the Proving Ground.

Corrine Buoni from SAIC will now discuss where we are on that process and what's being done. So if you have any questions, Corrine the floor is yours.

MS. CORRINE BUONI:

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Again my name is Corrine Buoni. think some of you may have met me last time when we presented the poster of community involvement program for Jefferson Proving Ground. That basically summarizes the philosophy in our approach to updating the program. I would like to talk to you tonight about is where we are in the process of making and recapping why we are going out and doing all these interviews. So let me just take a few moments to review what the purpose of the community involvement program is at Jefferson Proving Ground. then talk about the interviews that are currently under way and after that talk about what plans in the next few months are going to be going on, schedule and then summarize where we are going. Why are we doing this community involvement program? Well the basic agreement is to keep the lines of communication open and to

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maintain a partnership between the Army and the public. The Army with the EPA and the State as part of this BRAC closure team are committed to inform and educate the community of JPG status, plans and activities. Creating opportunities for dialogue, which tonight was the video and trying to solicit your input on how we should get this out to the public. Obtaining your input on decisions involving site closure, clean up and future Just a brief recap. A community relations land use. plan was developed and released in 1995 just prior to closure of JPG. And since that time and to the present ongoing community involvement opportunities have emerged. We have reports on progress of clean up and transfers, reuse. We have periodic media updates on the program, public hearings on key JPG activities such as when the EIS was doing their closure reuse operation. presentations to local community groups. We're at the point now where the installation has closed where we're re-evaluating what it is you would like to do in terms of involving the community in the program such as how things are going. One (1) is to review community issues and prospectives in these interviews. And that's something that we're currently doing this week while we're here on site. Many of you I think have been interviewed by some of our people. I would like to call your attention to

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Susie Cooke. Will you stand up? (Standing) Some of you may have met her. She's - she's the prime mover on all the interviews this week and becoming very familiar with the area. With this in mind we have an understanding of what your concerns are, how well the community program has been working, where it can be strengthened. We will be updating the community involvement plan, modifying goals, re-evaluating participant's goals and their responsibilities, and possibly expanding plans and activities to be sure that the response we get would be And this is the bottom line. We're actually very interested in getting your input so that the plan accurately reflects how you want to see the information communicated to you. The plan also is to release this plan within the next few months and begin implementing as we speak some of the conflicts that develop as a result of community progress. This summarizes for you basically the schedule in the near term. It will be on going. I said earlier we're doing the community interviews this We should be finished up by Friday. We will have have completed on the order of thirty-five (35) percent of the interviews. We will continue to do interview process after this point in time, primarily through telephone interview process. And then possibly by the middle of May we will release the plan as a result of

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taking all your input and evaluating it and adapting what you would like to see in terms of community involvement program with the Army resources. Put this out for Hopefully through the RAB process we'll have them available for you to look at and comment on them. And then we plan in August - in fact that doesn't mean that we won't start doing things earlier than that. fact we will do that. And in summary it's a shared commitment among all the people participating in the BRAC closure to assure that community partnership is maintained and nutured over the next few years. We have plans to solicit ways to strengthen community involvement such as community interviews. It won't stop here. We hope to maintain something like this on an on going fashion in the future. And whatever - whatever we decide to implement will be in concert with your needs and interests. And with that I would like to open up the floor for any questions you might have. Richard at the beginning said that if any of you have not been interviewed and would like to be, you can call Ken or rather than do that talk to Susie. She's right here tonight. Or you can talk to me. Either of us will be

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available until Friday for any questions. Yes sir?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

Are the plans just to solicit on ways to strengthen community involvement? Give me an idea of what you consider as a way to strengthen the community involvement?

MS. CORRINE BUONI:

Well one (1) way I think is perhaps there hasn't been a good notification of when the RAB meetings are to the public. Perhaps by establishing a formal press release prior to the meeting and making sure that there is follow up or a summary in the paper of what happened maybe at each RAB meeting would be one (1) way to keep you informed. Depends you know if you're thinking of children, have something in addition to the video would be warranted. Having people communicate. Having the Army come in and talk about particular issues would be another example. Susie do you have any other ideas?

MS. SUSIE COOKE:

Well a lot of people have been telling us that they want to see you know more meetings and more small group meetings where the Army can come and talk to people individually and get ideas for the

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community and really put in their ideas and suggestions. So that's a real possibility too.

MS. CORRINE BUONI:

Fact sheets area another one such as the one here that we have tonight. And that's probably one (1) way of doing it. Do you have any ideas?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Laura do you have a question?

MS. LAURA HODGES:

Yeah 1 have a question about this community relations plan that was released in 1995?

MS. CORRINE BUONI:

Un-huh (yes).

MS. LAURA HODGES:

who was that released to? Was anybody in the community informed about what the plan was?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Yes they were in fact. It's in the

library and it was made available for general information back at that time. There have been a number of changes that have occurred at the Proving Ground since then. Obviously it's closed. We've identified the buyer for the cantonment area. Some reuses were cleaning up the UXO. We're cleaning up the environmental site as we There are some initiatives north of the firing speak. The Fish and Wildlife and the NRC and the DU. line. lot of those things have occurred since then and that's what really prompted the initiatives for this revision. Plus the fact that we are interested to see if there is something that the community would like to see or recommend for other mechanisms for communicating and getting the community's input just as an on going basis regardless of anything new that's happened at the Proving Ground or not.

MS. LAURA HODGES:

Have there been a - this firm, this SAIC firm, have they been in charge of community relations since 1995?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

No.

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MS. LAURA HODGES:

Okay.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

The Army had a --

MS. LAURA HODGES:

They are just coming on the scene with this?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

through the Army Environmental Center and the Aberdeen Proving Ground due to the initial community relations plan and interview process. Subsequent to that the Army Environmental Center opened up a very generic contract with SAIC. I'm able to task them with a multitude of different things. They established the Advent Record at Hanover College. They are doing the community relations plan revision. They will be providing support, not only at the RAB meetings, but at a number of different potential activities that I can basically define. It's very open ended and very generically defined contract that's only limited by the available funding. So it's pretty open ended and it's very easy for me to use for

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whatever things come up. If I need draft presentations for the community I can ask SAIC to provide me with something that I can modify or tailor based on the Army's prospective. In fact they are working on some of those things right now.

MS. CORRINE BUONI:

Just - just to let you know Susie has been doing this for - and I don't want to date her - for many years. And has done similar type initiatives at other sites. So she's very - very skilled and wants to do this. Thank you. I had some copies of the chart which I put over there. If for some reason you don't have - didn't get one and would like receive one I will make sure that you get one. Thank you.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Before we go to the next item on the agenda I would like to make known that one (1) of the sheets over here is an additional fax sheet that the Huntsville Corps of Engineers has on the internet. This one (1) right here (indicating). There are copies available for anyone. If you have access to the internet you can access this. This is public knowledge. This is specific to JPG. It is specific to the UXO operations

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and the removal efforts south of the firing line. It was updated on the 27th of February of this year. So if you have access to that and you would like to check on it as it gets additional updates and modifications, it is on the internet and we can provide you with that address. And if you don't, then as new additions and revisions come out you can get them from Ken at the Proving Ground. The next item on the agenda is actually outside of the realm of what the Restoration Advisory Board is - purpose is, which is the - providing a mechanism of communication for the community to the Army on the environmental clean up of the Proving Ground. What Richard and I based on comments that were received at the last RAB meeting on the issue of reuse in the cantonment area have requested that Mr. Lyons from the Jefferson County Commissioners come and provide some information on that topic tonight. Mr. Lyons is here and Steve the floor is yours.

MR. STEVE LYONS:

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may - may or may not want to know of my limited knowledge of the JPG. But as far as the park parcel myself and Mr. Tom Williamson, at the Corps in Louisville, have had our discussions over a period of time. He is - I don't know when we had personnel changes down there which kind of

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naturally complicate things when you're working along with certain individuals and then it changes. There's not been any great rush to - to cement this transfer. It's a transfer we intend to do that we're working on. There was a small error I guess you would say during the sale of the property. If I may back up to the time the county requested an economic development conveyance of the cantonment area. We also in a separate request as a public benefit conveyance for those two (2) park parcels. Well when the economic development conveyance was denied and the business plan was denied to that, then the public benefit conveyances for the park parcels were still still active. At that point - at some point in this multitude of years it seems like we've worked on this closure we were -we, the commissioners, looked over these park parcels. And as part of the funding mechanism for that was our development of that southern end of the EDC. There are certain criteria you have to meet to get these public benefit conveyances. The Department of Interior sponsored our request and essentially I guess the Army gives it to the Department of the Interior. The Department of the Interior then conveys it to the county. So looking at the usage, the amount of funding it would potentially take to develop that western four hundred

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(400) wooded wetlands and so forth, we didn't have

anything in place to do that. The two hundred and thirty (230) acres roughly that's on around Krueger Lake site, that site for all intents and purposes is useable. And it has been used by the JPG employees and their guests for a number of years. And it's a - it's a nice area. A mistake was made during the sale of the property. The Army sold or this whatever you call it lease?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Furtherance of conveyance.

MR. STEVE LYONS:

Furtherance of conveyance, they sold Ordinance Drive to Mr. Ford. Well I guess it was just a simple fact of drawing lines on maps and talking about the park parcels. When we made the request we actually went north of Ordinance Drive which would also include Ordinance Drive. So when Mr. Williamson came on board with the Corps and he and I had some phone conversations, we met on the property one (1) day and I presented him with a survey that we had submitted for our request that we had to have. And it actually showed that we did request north of the road. So we're having to amend that since they've already sold the property. And it's not a big deal. It's just not a large number of acres or

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anything but we're down to roughly two hundred (200) plus So now we're in the process of having a or minus acres. new survey put together. That shouldn't be a big deal as far as our engineering firm that did the original has no problem to amend it. Mr. Williamson would like to meet with myself and our surveyor and take a look at it on the property and make sure that we have that and the number of easements and so forth that are necessary to make that property available to the county. Then as you all know we've come up with some environmental concerns. The park parcel is for all intents and purposes clean. We have adjacent property that has this question. security measures have had to be addressed. We have basically agreed to live with some covenants on the use of the property if and when it's conveyed to the county There have been a number of scenarios given, for use. whether it be build a fence around it which is kind of a costly item. Or to take and have restricted use. currently what we've evolved to is some kind of covenants with restricted use and a security plan which has yet to So that's where we are on the park be formulated. parcels. Richard had mentioned something to me about the - some of the current usage and property taxation. Technically the property is still federal property. And we know of no means or have no means, you can't tax

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federal property. There is a potential for taxes and taxation on personal property. The Indiana Legislature passed a few years ago during these base closure issues your ability to give the - turn those - request those closures, bases in closure as enterprise zone, which are tax benefits to try to re-develop those areas and ways to recapture some of that money to develop those areas. a lot of those options are open. But it's still technically federal property. I guess if the Army were feeling very benevolent or whatever when the Fish and Wildlife Service talked about obtaining the northern end and sometimes in lieu of taxes they will give the counties involved some fee. I guess since it's no longer an active base if the Army wanted to utilize that mechanism to feed a little money back into the local community that would probably be graciously accepted. And then of course we've got the potential timber harvest and things that go on through time. But really that's 18 all I really have to report. Anything that the county is 19 active in right now. The zoning - once there's no zoning 20 at this time. It needs to transfer and become the fee 21 simple property of Mr. Ford before we can get into zoning 22 issues. So it's a long drawn out process or bureaucracy 23 at a faster pace. If there are any questions I would be 24 glad to try to field them. Yes ma'am?

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MS. LAURA HODGES:

Do you anticipate that when you sell that area that you will grant further and existing uses?

MR. STEVE LYONS:

You say existing like people that are located there?

MS. LAURA HODGES:

The people who are sub-leasing it now.

MR. STEVE LYONS:

That is something that would have to be discussed. I think if you go back fifty (50) odd years you are probably looking at agricultural ground. That's probably what the zoning was then at that point in time. There was quite a - something else that we had a request by Mr. Ford and by the Department of Transportation when they were - of course they're looking at that parcel out there to move the sub-district. And their concern was to have public right of ways to get to their buildings. We had a resolution the commissioners passed the acceptance in the future of Papermill. Shun Pike. Ordinance Drive and

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Artillery Drive, the four (4) that were mentioned. Of course we know that this is going to be a long process in order to transfer - for Mr. Ford to be able to transfer us those right of ways that property would have to become his first. And with the current security situation that we have here, the UXO and what not, you know that it's kind of a sense that it's going to take a long period of time. But that wouldn't keep the Indiana Department of Transportation, who attended the commissioner's meeting and plan commission meeting, showing the interest they have in knowing that those eventually at some point in time would become public roadways. And that's a major concern of theirs before they locate there. Yes ma'am?

MS. KAREN MASON-SMITH:

Are you planning any activities for the parks this year?

MR. STEVE LYONS:

well they've - the only real activity there's been on that park property in the last two (2) years has been a little mini hydro race. And that's been the example used I think in all the documents that's been generated around here I guess from you folks, the EPA and

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the Army and us and so forth. I understand that there's another group of the same - model racers or what have you - that expressed some interest in using that and also caught wind of a pretty aggressive plan that one (1) of them has to use it several weeks in a row. And they had not actually talked to me about that. And I know they sent Ken a letter or talked to Ken Knouf. But no really we haven't - you know that's one of those situations that with all the problems that are up in the air right now it's not really been a big concern. I think our biggest concern about obtaining that park parcel is land that's definitely something that we have a limited amount of. And once that property is gone away it's gone. So we figure you know no matter how long it takes eventually it will become the property of the county. And then that's what we want to do. So you know I need to work with the Corps a little bit more. I've been busy. They've been busy. And then you know we're working through our problems but we - we are. And we don't have any problem getting within one another you know. It's just - 1 didn't really answer your question but nobody don't really have any great - any plans at this time. Anything else? Thank you.

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MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Thank you Steve. This is the open discussion period. If there are any questions, comments, concerns that anyone would like to address at this time. Again remind you that the intent or the purpose of the Restoration Advisory Board is to provide a mechanism for the community to communicate to the Army interest, priorities, concerns on the environmental clean up of the property. So I would ask that you focus your questions in that area if necessary. If you have questions about reuse I can provide you with Mr. Early's phone number. It is a toll free call at our Headquarters in Aberdeen. He is the base transition coordinator. He took Mr. Hudson's place when Mr. Hudson retired. He has been trained and again call him toll free if you would like to address the reuse questions along the Proving Ground. Any questions? Yes sir?

MR. DON BARNES:

Do you have any current information on the agreement between the D.O.T. and the well field?

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Oh the well field?

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MR. DON BARNES:

Yeah. The last I heard was they may have an agreement signed.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

No I don't. The FOST was signed sometime ago on that as you well know. There was an issue on the right of way for the water line. with the Mayor. I thought we had a very quick easy fix for that. Obviously that has not occurred. I think we are close. Does close mean tomorrow? Does close mean within six (6) months, almost certainly. Does it mean two (2) months? Probably. I would suggest if you don't get any satisfactory answer from the Corps of Engineers, Early and I. We will make sure you get a call Mr. satisfactory response. Any other comments or questions? Again let me encourage you to sign the attendance sheet so we can - if you are not on our mailing list we can add you and keep you informed. Richard and I will be, over the next few months, polling the Restoration Advisory Board members, the current members, to see if they would like to continue their membership and then going out and seeking additional members for the board. It's a voluntary organization. You will be provided if you are a board member copies of all the documents, just not the

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FOST or FOSILs, but the environmental clean up documents as they are generated and then are reviewed by the State and the EPA in which we will be seeking your input. If you are a board member to - after you've reviewed those documents if you have any questions, comments or Some of those documents are fairly small. They may be twenty (20), thirty (30) or forty (40) pages. But some of them are five (5) and six (6) volumes. of them are fairly technical. There is hopefully in the near future a mechanism that the Restoration Advisory Board will be able to utilize for their community members to provide funding for training on environmental technical issues. That process is slowly being developed by the Department of Defense. The law was changed two (2) years ago to authorize that but there is no process that is in place to actually document and account for any funding that may be provided to an individual Restoration Advisory Board. About two (2) months ago I provided with Richard a copy to all the RAB members, a copy of that proposed rule on how the process might occur. I believe the comment period then expired. The Department of Defense is reviewing those and within the next few months I expect a final ruling to come out. And then certain levels of funding for each individual RAB should be made available so that the community members can obtain

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independent review of documents and have training on these environmental technical issues so that when they review documents they can do it from a more informed knowledgable prospective.

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

Paul we can as an agency, both IDEM and EPA, can also talk and give training to the community or the RAB members on specific things. Like if you don't understand what Superfund is and how it applies to the site, there is the opportunity in our funding mechanism to provide that training whether it's one (1) of us or somebody from the office.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

If there is an interest from the community or one of the RAB members, then please make that known to Richard or I. You can make that known on the State or EPA. There is another mechanism that EPA has available but unfortunately it is for Superfund sites. JPG is not a Superfund site so that particular mechanism is not available. But as Carol has correctly identified there are other ways to provide information and training to people so if there is an interest please let Richard or I know. And we will take the ball and run

with it from there. If there are no further questions please make sure you take the handouts. I have my business card there and that's my E-mail address and my phone number on it. If you have any questions on what is going on at the Proving Ground from the environmental staff arena and I would remind you that the next RAB meeting is scheduled for May 14th. It's currently scheduled for here in the Salvation Army building. That's a Wednesday at 7 P.M. We will also be sending out another letter with an agenda for that meeting approximately two (2) to four (4) weeks before that meeting. Anything that you would like to see on the agenda from environmental clean up prospective please call Richard or myself, call Ken out at the site, and it can get to me and we can add that to the agenda and have someone come in and discuss an issue, provide some information or explain an item or question that you might have. With that that's all I have. Richard do you have some closing remarks?

MR. RICHARD HILL:

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Sure. I have a couple. I'm going to put some of my cards over there too now that we are mentioning calling everyone. Also in line with what Paul was talking about about these volumes of materials that

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us on the RAB get, I inherited all of Bob Grewe's. I had to go down and clean out the Midcor office. So if anybody is - I heard somebody mention that the Jennings and Ripley County Library may want some of those? I could give them those because they are just copies of what I've already got. I don't see any great problem with that.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

Great. That's much quicker in fact.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

contact with me and we will have to set up a day. And it would be nice to bring along a couple of strong healthy people to help carry these because there are several boxes. And where I stored them is upstairs in a building down town here. So the only place I could find to put them. So just let me know and you can have those. And then also since we have some people here and are talking about ideas for the video for the kids, does anybody off the top of my head it seems like the schools would be a good captive audience to - to have something like that. I'm sure that we could get cooperation of the - of the - of the schools to get that done. I feel pretty sure we

could. Does anybody have any ideas about a better way to do that?

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

I wouldn't say better way but I would say that that video should definitely go to South Ripley especially in the elementary school.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yeah the elementary school.

Absolutely.

MR. WILLIAM CORNING:

They will definitely use it. I will see to it that they do.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Good. Good

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

what we had discussed with Paul is the question of you know use the video alone or use the video with a person.

And if you get the kids together in like an assembly building of an auditorium or in - spend a day at a school

and do it in smaller groups because it helps the size of their screens.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yeah.

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

And just the technical capabilities is what - what you would like to see to reach down to their levels because there's terminology that's on the video that might not go down to the lower levels of kids. So we're trying to establish like exactly what grade is it suitable to the kids to understand and to bring in the relationships of you know how does this apply to the site that's next door in your neighborhood. To try and give that impression. So I think we're going to be working on trying to produce some other material and we're looking for ideas of what those other videos should be for the kids so that they recognize how this fits in to what's next to their area.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yeah I think it would be really good if we could supply a person to go with the video and show it and explain it and answer questions. Which if I

didn't have to work you know I would be glad to do that.

have.

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

In the sense that you know we had we had talked about not necessarily wanting to take all
of Ken's time if we could establish maybe a training
program for several people.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yeah. Sure.

MS. CAROL WITT-SMITH:

And then go to the schools whether it be agency people or community volunteers to get in effect the knowledge of those trainers to go over to the schools.

MR. RICHARD HILL:

Yeah that sounds good. That's all I

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

I want to thank -- yes ma'am?

MS. TERESA ZIZAK:

I don't know but I know we have a lot of shut in people in the county that are interested in this. And you may want to contact our local cable, television personalities, and televise this through the media. As long as they have a media scheduling I'm sure they would want to do this.

MR. PAUL CLOUD:

that's - see if that's feasible and within our capabilities. Thank you for that suggestion. With that I would like to close the meeting and again encourage you to sign the attendance sheet. Take a card from Richard and myself so that if you have any questions in the future. The next meeting again is scheduled for the 14th of May, Wednesday, here at 7 P.M. And with that thank you and good evening.

* * * * *

CONCLUSION OF HEARING

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF INDIANA SS: COUNTY OF JEFFERSON

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I, Sharon Shields, do hereby certify that I am a Notary Public in and for the County of Jefferson, State of Indiana, duly authorized and qualified to administer oaths; That the foregoing public hearing was taken by me in shorthand and on a tape recorder on March 12, 1997 in the offices of the Salvation Army Headquarters, 331 East Main Street, Madison, IN; That this public hearing was taken on behalf of the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board pursuant to agreement for taking at this time and place; That the testimony of the witnesses was reduced to typewriting by me and contains a complete and accurate transcript of the said testimony.

I further certify that pursuant to stipulation by and between the respective parties, this testimony has been transcribed and submitted to the Jefferson Proving Ground Restoration Advisory Board.

WITNESS my hand and notarial seal this 17th day of March, 1997.

> Sharon Shields. Notary Public Jefferson County, State of Indiana

My Commission Expires: July 2, 1999

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